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Current Status of Satellite Activities in the Australian Bureau of Meteorology

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BoM

The Bureau of meteorology treats space-based observations as a core capability within its composite observing system. Although Australia does not fly its own meteorological or environmental satellites, its geographical position and its large geographical area, mean that satellites are critical in measuring and understanding the environment.

These same factors mean that Australia can play a supporting role in the missions of other countries, providing ground station support, calibration and validation sites, and contributing its expertise to international efforts.

Satellites provide regular observations over large areas where in situ data is expensive or difficult to obtain. For Australia, with a large geographic area and relatively small population, satellite observations provide a basic level of coverage to those areas that do not have radars or other meteorological observing infrastructure.

This talk will cover the current use of satellites in the Bureau, and outline where Australia is making a significant contribution to international some key international partnerships with satellite operators.